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FORMBY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1963

FORMBY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

1963

CHAIRMAN - Mr. Councillor J.R. Rimmer, M.B.E., J.P.

VICE-CHAIRMAN - Councillor Mrs. M.A. Neep.

CHAIRMAN OF HEALTH AND HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE -

Mr. Councillor S.J.E. Sloan, LL.B.

OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL -

Councillor Mrs. P.H. Beeston, B.A., J.P.
Mr. Councillor F.V. Denton, O.B.E., T.D.
Mr. Councillor J.R.O. Folkard.
Mr. Councillor C.L. Hilbert.
Mr. Councillor E. Johnstone.
Mr. Councillor C.W.A. Kenny.
Mr. Councillor J. Laycock.
Mr. Councillor E. Pearce.
Mr. Councillor E. Storey, M.Sc.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH (Part Time) -

M.G. Garry, L.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., L.M.,
Council Offices,
FORMBY.

Telephone No. Formby 2232.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR -

N. Benson, D.P.A. (L'pool).

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

27th July, 1964.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Formby Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is again my privilege to present for your consideration the Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of the Urban District of Formby, together with vital statistics relating to 1963.

The increasing population trend continues as indicated by the Registrar General's estimate of 13,290 for mid 1963. Factors contributing to this trend are a birth rate nearly double the death rate, combined with the progressive housing development in the district.

Two hundred and forty-four cases of measles were notified; most of these occurred during the first and the last two months of the year. There were also two cases of scarlet fever and seven cases of whooping cough.

The incidence of respiratory tuberculosis in the district is slightly below the national average of 0.348 per 1,000 population. Four cases were diagnosed during the year, giving a rate of 0.3 per 1,000 population in Formby. There was one death from this disease.

As usual, heart disease and cancer were the principal causes of death and accounted for 56% of the total.

The completion of the new Sewage Disposal Works was closely followed by the commencement of work on the Eastern Area Sewerage Scheme. This scheme will enable most premises where septic tank drainage has been in use to have the advantages of main drainage. In the past, much nuisance has been caused by septic tanks and cesspools overflowing on to the rear gardens of the dwellings. Sewering of parts of the eastern area will also permit the replacement of the majority of pail-closets by water-closets. A considerable amount of preliminary work has been necessary, which increased as the scheme proceeded in order to advise, arrange connections and carry out tests.

Although the main sewering has now been completed there yet remains the task of following up the extension of the drainage to each property. Owners of the older type dwellings without baths, W.C's etc., are now in a position to carry out improvements and are being encouraged to apply for

a standard grant to assist in this direction.

It is now fairly evident that continued vigilance is required in the preparation, storage and sale of foods. A high standard of hygiene in the catering trade may be largely nullified unless it is also practised in the home, and regulations are powerless in this sphere.

In addition to the development of the district each year new legislation is passed, which adds to the amount and diversity of the work. As a result, demands are being made on a department whose slender resources are becoming inadequate.

In many ways it has been a year of progress, and I have to thank the Chairman of the Council, the Chairman and Members of the Health and Highways Committee for their interest and support, and the staff for their kind co-operation.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

M.G. GARRY,

Medical Officer of Health.

Area of District -

L.W. Mark - 7,308 acres.
H.W. Mark - 5,613 acres.

Population (Registrar General's Estimate, mid 1963) - 13,290

Population (Census, 1961) - 11,730

Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1963 - 4,154

Rateable Value - £506,970

Sum represented by a penny rate - £2,075

VITAL STATISTICS

MOTHERS AND INFANTS.

Live Births.

Number (145 male, 125 female)	270
Rate per 1,000 population	20.3
Illegitimate live births (per cent of total live births)	1.5

Still Births.

Number (Female)	6
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	21.7

Total live and still births.	276
Infant deaths (under 1 year).	3

Infant Mortality Rates.

Total infant deaths per 1,000 live births	11.1
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	11.3
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil.
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births).	7.4
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week, per 1,000 total live births).	3.7

Perinatal Mortality Rate.

(Still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births).	25.4

Maternal Mortality (including abortion).

Number of deaths	Nil.
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	Nil.

Total deaths, all causes (males 74, females 67)	141
Death rate (per 1,000 population)	10.6
Number of deaths from Respiratory Tuberculosis	1
Death rate from Respiratory Tuberculosis, per 1,000 population	0.08

Comparability factors -

Births 1.06 Deaths 1.00

Calculated on these factors the adjusted death rate (per 1,000 population) is	10.6
Adjusted birth rate (per 1,000 population) is	21.5
Number of deaths from cancer of the lung and bronchus	8
Death rate from above per 1,000 population	0.6

BIRTHS 1945 - 1963.

Year	Population	BIRTHS			BIRTH RATE	
		Male	Female	Total	Formby	England and Wales
					Rate per 1,000 population	
1945	8,421	61	62	123	14.5	16.1
1946	8,864	102	74	176	19.8	19.1
1947	8,900	66	68	134	15.0	20.5
1948	9,576	70	65	135	14.0	17.9
1949	9,714	51	62	113	11.6	16.7
1950	10.386	61	53	114	11.0	15.8
1951	10,429	60	70	130	12.3	15.5
1952	10,520	68	63	131	12.5	15.3
1953	10,100	81	64	145	14.4	15.5
1954	9,980	76	59	135	13.5	15.2
1955	11,170	75	67	142	12.7	15.0
1956	10,340	74	72	146	14.1	15.8
1957	10,470	91	72	163	15.6	16.1
1958	10,790	77	86	163	15.1	16.4
1959	10,770	93	85	178	16.5	16.5
1960	11,420	108	78	186	16.3	17.1
1961	11,720	136	99	235	20.1	17.4
1962	12,620	143	102	248	19.7	18.0
1963	13,290	145	125	270	20.3	18.2

DEATHS 1945 - 1963.

Year	Population	DEATHS			DEATH RATE	
		Male	Female	Total	Formby	England and Wales
					Rate per 1,000 population	
1945	8,421	73	57	130	15.4	11.4
1946	8,864	65	76	141	15.9	11.5
1947	8,900	52	51	103	11.5	12.6
1948	9,576	51	50	101	10.5	10.8
1949	9,714	65	65	130	13.4	11.7
1950	10,386	56	77	133	12.8	11.6
1951	10,429	69	81	150	14.2	12.5
1952	10,520	59	57	116	11.0	11.3
1953	10,100	50	58	108	10.7	11.4
1954	9,980	55	59	114	11.4	11.3
1955	11,170	49	65	114	10.2	11.7
1956	10,340	65	56	121	11.7	11.7
1957	10,470	49	55	104	9.9	11.5
1958	10,790	63	72	135	12.5	11.7
1959	10,770	55	63	118	11.0	11.6
1960	11,420	63	60	123	10.8	11.5
1961	11,720	78	85	163	13.9	12.0
1962	12,620	72	52	124	9.8	11.9
1963	13,290	74	67	141	10.6	12.2

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE FORMBY URBAN DISTRICT DURING 1963.

CAUSE OF DEATH	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
1. Tuberculosis of the respiratory system	1	-	1
2. Other forms of tuberculosis	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-
5. Whooping cough	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
7. Acute poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
10. Cancer of the stomach	1	4	5
11. Cancer of the lungs	8	-	8
12. Cancer of the breast	-	10	10
13. Cancer of the uterus	-	1	1
14. Cancer of other sites	6	7	13
15. Leukaemia	1	1	2
16. Diabetes	-	-	-
17. Vascular lesions of the nervous system	6	14	20
18. Coronary disease, angina	20	12	32
19. Hypertension with heart disease	1	-	1
20. Other heart disease	3	3	6
21. Other circulatory disease	3	1	4
22. Influenza	1	-	1
23. Pneumonia	3	4	7
24. Bronchitis	4	1	5
25. Other respiratory diseases	1	1	2
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	-	2
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-	-
28. Nephritis	-	-	-
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	-	-	-
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	7	4	11
33. Motor vehicle accidents	1	1	2
34. All other accidents	3	3	6
35. Suicide	2	-	2
36. Homicide	-	-	-
	74	67	141

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Hospitals.

The Liverpool Regional Hospital Board is responsible for the administration of the hospital service within Health Division No. 7, of which Formby forms part. There are no hospitals within the urban district. Patients are removed when treatment is required, to any of the hospitals in the area, i.e. Liverpool, Southport or Ormskirk.

Nursing Homes.

There is one private Nursing Home, which is registered by the County Council and inspected by the divisional medical staff.

Infectious Disease.

Cases of infectious disease are admitted to the City Hospital, Fazackerley, when necessary, or to New Hall Hospital, Scarisbrick. The incidence of notifiable infections areshown in tabulated form on page 10.

Tuberculosis.

The National Health Service Act 1946, provides for diagnosis and treatment of tuberculosis by the Regional Hospital Board. The Local Health Authorities, however, have important duties in relation to environmental conditions and the prevention of spread of infection.

Care of Mothers and Young Children.

These services are administered by the Lancashire County Council. Ante-natal and post-natal clinic sessions are held at Waterloo

Local Clinics and Treatment Centres.

Child Welfare and Minor Ailments Clinics are provided by the Lancashire County Council and are held at "Roselands," Cross Green, Formby, on the following days and times :-

Infant Welfare Clinic: Every Monday, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Minor Ailments Clinic: Every Tuesday, 10 a.m. to 12 noon.
Infant Welfare Clinic: Every Tuesday, 1.30 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Diphtheria and Poliomyelitis Immunisation Clinics:
Every first Tuesday in the month, 10 a.m. to 12 noon.
Speech Therapy: By appointment.

Welfare Foods.

National dried milk, cod liver oil, vitamins A and D and orange juice are distributed from the clinic.

Diphtheria and Poliomyelitis Immunisation.

The following details have kindly been given by the Divisional Medical Officer :-

Diphtheria Immunisation During 1963.

At Formby Clinic: 219 Children completed treatment.
Clinic and Schools: 204 Children received a "booster" dose.
By General Practitioners:
210 Children completed treatment.
17 Children received a "booster" dose.

Poliomyelitis Immunisation - Clinic and General Practitioners.

Under 15 years of age - received three doses of Sabin - 242
Over 15 years of age - received three doses of Sabin - 8
5/11 years of age - received fourth dose - 170

Prevalence and Control of Infectious Disease.

Two hundred and fifty-seven cases of infectious disease were notified during the year; these are shown in the table below :-

Notifiable Disease.	Total Cases	Age Periods - Years									Deaths
		Under 1	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	25 & over	
Scarlet Fever	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-
Measles	244	1	14	37	34	36	116	4	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	7	-	1	1	1	1	2	1	-	-	-
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	1
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	257	1	15	38	35	37	119	6	2	2	1

Midwifery.

This service is provided by the Lancashire County Council who employ full time midwives in the urban areas to ensure that every mother may have the advice and attention of a skilled midwife when she is confined at home.

Home Nursing Service.

A domiciliary nursing service is available, and the visit of a district nurse can be arranged to attend to the sick in their own homes. This service is made available by a note from the family doctor or hospital.

Ambulance Service.

These facilities are provided by the Lancashire County Council and stations within the Division are at Crosby, Maghull and Burscough.

Information regarding the number and type of emergency calls arising within the district, together with the number of non-urgent cases which were dealt with, have been kindly given by the County Medical Officer of Health. Under the system of radio control at present in operation, it is the practice to redirect a vehicle from one case to another without returning to its station.

EMERGENCY CASES	AMBULANCE STATION AT WHICH VEHICLE BASED.			
	BURSCOUGH	CROSBY	MAGHULL	TOTAL
Road Accidents	-	23	4	27
Public Place Accidents	-	8	6	14
Home Accidents	-	21	4	25
Works Accidents	-	7	-	7
Maternity	-	39	7	46
Sudden Illness	3	78	11	92
Others (Mortuary).	-	1	-	1
	3	177	32	*212

* In addition, three emergency calls were dealt with by Southport Corporation Ambulance acting on behalf of the

Lancashire County Council. The Southport Ambulance Service was also called on five occasions to attend road traffic accidents on the Formby By-Pass.

NON-URGENT CASES.

BURSCOUGH	CROSBY	MAGHULL	TOTAL
21	1,585	30	1,636

Home Help Service.

There have been increasing demands for this Service, which is provided by the County Council for helping with household duties in cases of confinement, sickness, infirmity or other difficulties.

Loan of Nursing Equipment.

Persons being nursed at home and who are in need of nursing equipment may obtain this on loan, by application to the Divisional Health Office, the District Nurse or Medical Practitioner attending the case.

Welfare of the Aged, Infirm and Homeless.

Residential and temporary accommodation for the aged or other people in need of care and attention is provided by the Lancashire County Council in their own Institutions or in suitable voluntary Homes. One of the voluntary Homes, "Maryland" - for the elderly - is situated in the district and has accommodation for twenty-two persons.

"Hurstwood," a large detached house which was purchased by the Council and converted into thirteen self-contained flats for elderly people is supervised by a resident housemother. Administration is carried out by a Committee formed by the Council with members co-opted from the Formby Council of Social Welfare.

Voluntary Welfare Organisations.

Important work is being done by voluntary organisations, and many gaps are filled by these enthusiastic unpaid workers.

The Formby Council of Social Welfare was formed to act as a central co-ordinating body for all the voluntary social and welfare organisations in the district. Its aims

are to promote the welfare of the community and to render advice and assistance to all persons in difficulty, need, poverty or distress, regardless of age, sex or religious belief. About twenty-eight local organisations are represented on this body.

Emergency Accommodation.

The Lancashire County Council is required under the provisions of the National Assistance Act 1948 to provide temporary accommodation for families who are rendered homeless due to flooding, gales or any other cause. Where such an emergency arises during normal working hours the Divisional Health Office will be notified. Outside these hours such occurrence will be referred through the Maghull Ambulance Station to the Duty Mental Welfare Officer who will also inform the Divisional Medical Officer at his home.

Laboratory Facilities.

Pathological specimens and samples of food or water for examination are sent to the Public Health Laboratory Service, Liverpool. The analysis of rainwater collected in the atmospheric deposit gauge is done by the County Analyst at Preston.

Disinfection.

Disinfection of bedding, clothing, etc., is carried out after infectious disease or on special request.

Articles are removed to the Sparkhall Disinfector in the Council Depot. The method of disinfection used in this apparatus is by the vapourisation of a fluid having a high Rideal-Walker co-efficient. After a period the chamber is cleared of the gas by means of an extractor fan.

Forty-nine articles of bedding, clothing and books were treated. Rooms, when required, are disinfected by formaldehyde. This is produced by the addition of potassium permanganate crystals to a 40 per cent solution of formalin. In the ensuing reaction sufficient heat is generated to cause violent boiling with the evaporation of the bulk of the solution. The room is left sealed for at least three hours.

Sanitary Circumstances of the District.

Water Supply - The supply of water to the district continues to be satisfactory in quality and quantity. It is supplied by the West Lancashire Water Board and the sources comprise pumping stations with deep wells, headings and boreholes sunk in the new red sandstone formation in the Bickerstaffe and Aughton area.

The mains supplying Formby vary in size from 3" to 14" internal diameter. The water, although hard in character, is of the highest standard of organic and bacterial purity. Four samples of water were taken in the district and submitted for bacteriological examination. All were reported as satisfactory.

Other Sources of Water Supply.

Eleven premises depend upon private wells for their water supply. Two cottages near the eastern boundary of the district are supplied with water in containers by the landlord. Two samples were obtained from these sources and submitted for bacteriological examination. These were found to be satisfactory.

ANALYST'S REPORT ON A SAMPLE OF MAINS WATER TAKEN IN THE DISTRICT.

Chemical Results in Parts per Million.

Appearance - Clear and bright.

Turbidity - Nil.

Colour - Nil. Odour - Normal.

pH - 7.1 Free Carbon Dioxide - 38

Electric Conductivity - 610

Dissolved Solids, dried at 180° C - 415

Chlorine as Chlorides - 30

Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate - 235

Hardness: Total - 325 Carbonate - 235 Non-Carbonate - 90

Nitrate Nitrogen - 0.0 Nitrite Nitrogen - Absent

Ammoniacal Nitrogen - 0.000 Oxygen Absorbed - 0.05

Albuminoid Nitrogen - 0.000 Residual Chlorine - Absent

Metals - Iron, Manganese, Zinc, Copper and Lead - Absent.

Fluoride - less than 0.10

MINERAL ANALYSIS.

(Parts per million and milliequivalents per litre).

CATIONS.			ANIONS.		
	p.p.m.	M.Eq/1.		p.p.m.	M.Eq/1.
Ca	78	3.9	CO_3	141	4.7
Mg	31	2.55	SO_4	95	2.0
Na	22	0.95	Cl	30	0.85
K	4	0.1	NO_3	0	-

HYPOTHETICAL COMBINATIONS.

	p.p.m.	M.Eq/1.
Calcium Carbonate	195	3.9
Magnesium Carbonate	34	0.8
Magnesium Sulphate	105	1.75
Sodium Sulphate	18	0.25
Sodium Chloride	44	0.75
Silica	12	-
Potassium Chloride	7	0.10

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS.

	1 day at 37° C.	2 days at 37° C.	3 days at 20° C.
Number of Colonies developing on Agar	0 per ml.	0 per ml.	1 per ml.
	Present in.	Absent from.	Probable No.
Presumptive Coliform Reaction	- ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Bac. coli. (Type 1).	- ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Cl. welchii Reaction	- ml.	100 ml.	

This sample is clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from iron and other metals. The water is very hard in character but not excessively so, contains no excess of mineral constituents, and it is of the highest standard of organic and bacterial purity. These results are indicative of a pure and wholesome water, suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

Swimming Baths.

There are no public swimming baths in the district, but there is one open air swimming bath attached to a large private school, which is used by a considerable number of boys during the season. Water for this bath, which has a capacity of 26,000 gallons, is obtained from the public mains and is maintained in a clean and satisfactory condition by a method of continuous circulation, filtration and chlorination.

A sample of water taken from the baths during use, and submitted for bacteriological examination, showed the water to be of the same standard as a good drinking water.

Drainage and Sewage Disposal.

The foul sewers discharge by gravitation to the Sewage Disposal Works. Surface water from street gullies connects to surface water drains and discharges into water-courses. Rainwater from house property is drained into soakaways situated in the gardens.

Work on the reconstruction of the Sewage Disposal Works has now been completed, at an approximate cost of £130,000. The scheme, which was prepared by Consulting Engineers, gives full treatment of the sewage before discharge by a new outfall into the River Alt. Sewage passes through a screening chamber into a detritus tank where the heavy organic solids settle. The sewage is then lifted by means of electrically operated centrifugal pumps, again screened and passes into four sedimentation tanks and three storm water tanks having a total capacity of 388,000 gallons.
In the event of any failure of the electricity supply, it is arranged that one pump shall have as an alternative a stand-by diesel engine designed for automatic starting, which would come into use when required at any time during the day or night.

Sewage is retained in the tanks from six to eight hours, where the sludge is settled to be drawn off at intervals by the tanker wagon and removed to the Refuse Tip. The water from the tanks is later discharged into one of the three filter beds, each measuring 120 ft. in diameter, and dosed by a rotating distributor. The effluent from the percolating filters is collected into a channel around the bed and discharged into humus tanks. Finally, it passes over a weir into a channel leading to the River Alt.

Plans were prepared by Consultants for the drainage of the unsewered area to the east of the district and work on this scheme is nearing completion. It is estimated to cost £150,000.

Cesspools and Septic Tanks.

Arrangements can now be made to empty tanks by the new tanker wagon if access is available.

Sanitary Accommodation.

Number of houses with pail closets	129
Number of houses with W.C's draining to cesspools or septic tanks	344
Number of houses with W.C's on main drainage	3,681

Replacement of Pail Closets, etc.

Number of premises where pail closets have been converted to water closets during 1963	9
Number of cesspools abolished and drainage connected to sewer	4

Testing of Drains.

Three hundred and twenty-eight drain tests were carried out during the year.

The drains are tested by being filled with smoke under light pressure, any leak being readily observed: two smoke machines are in use.

In addition to the machines provided by the Council, the larger building contractors have obtained their own machines, which remain on the site and are always available for tests. This not only saves time and transport costs but means that tests can be quickly arranged, thus reducing the probability of damage by leaving new drainage work lying exposed in open trenches. Owing to the high sub-surface water table in the area, it is sometimes necessary to use de-watering plant which is generally extremely noisy in operation. In these circumstances it is a great advantage to be able to test at short notice.

Drainage has been carried out in salt glazed spigot and socket pipes to B.S.S. These are jointed by tarred gaskin, tightly caulked, the remaining joint being filled with cement mortar. A rapid hardening additive is sometimes used in the cement to get a "quick set" in cases where ground water may be seeping into the trench.

Shops Act, 1950. Sec. 38.

The administration of those parts of the Act enforceable by the Council, relating to sanitary accommodation, heating and ventilation were carried out.

Inspectorial duties assigned by the Lancashire County Council are also undertaken, relating to hours of employment of young persons, inspection of records and Notices, means of lighting, washing facilities and seating accommodation for female assistants.

The provisions of the Act relating to hours of closing for shops are administered by the Lancashire County Council.

Factories Act, 1937.

There are 63 factories and other premises on the Register to which Section 7 of the Act applies. This relates to the provision and maintenance of sufficient and suitable sanitary conveniences. One hundred and seven visits were made and three Notices served for contraventions.

Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6, relate to cleanliness, overcrowding, temperature, ventilation and drainage of floors and are only administered by the local authority where mechanical power is not used. These sections apply to five premises in this district.

Rag, Flock and Other Filling Material Act, 1951.

This Act provides for the registration of premises where rag flock or other filling material is used in upholstering or in the manufacture of bedding, toys, etc., and prescribes standards of cleanliness for the filling material. There are no premises at present registered in this district.

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960.

Two holiday sites are licenced for a total of 300 caravans, covering the period 1st March to 31st October. Both sites are pleasantly situated near the shore and set amidst pinewoods. Adequate sanitary facilities are provided. The sites were inspected at regular intervals and were found to be satisfactory.

There are three caravans used for residential purposes, the licences for which enure for the benefit of their respective occupiers only.

Refuse Removal and Disposal.

The removal of house refuse is carried out under the direction of the Surveyor. Two Shelvoke and Drewry Refuse vehicles are employed.

Dustbins and pail closets are emptied weekly.

The disposal of refuse is by tipping on low lying land at North Moss Lane.

Noise Abatement.

The Noise Abatement Act, 1960, gives power to local authorities to deal with any noise or vibration which causes a nuisance.

Only a few complaints were received during the year and, generally, a reduction in the volume of the noise was effected by informal action.

HOUSING.

The general standard of housing in the district is very good; most of the houses are semi-detached or detached.

Progress in building development is shown by the following statistics :-

HOUSES AND FLATS ERECTED SINCE THE WAR.

Year	Local Authority	Government Department	Private Builders	Total
1945	-	-	2	2
1946	-	-	67	67
1947	16	-	8	24
1948	34	-	-	34
1949	13	7	-	20
1950	9	6	-	15
1951	-	-	2	2
1952	-	-	15	15
1953	30	5	48	83
1954	-	8	66	74
1955	5	25	76	106
1956	36	-	84	120
1957	54	-	91	145
1958	-	-	81	81
1959	-	-	149	149
1960	3	-	178	181
1961	-	-	405	405
1962	-	-	194	194
1963	-	-	256	256
	Total new dwellings			1,973

Unfit Houses.

Only a small number of unfit houses remain, which are scheduled for demolition. Some of these are already vacant. Although many of the old thatched cottages are sub-standard no formal action has been taken because the owners have agreed that when the premises are vacated by the present tenants the cottages will be demolished.

Demolition Orders have been made in respect of eleven houses during 1963. The following tabulated list shows the progress that has been made during the past few years :-

DEMOLITION OF UNFIT DWELLINGS.

Year	Number of houses demolished.	Number of Ex R.A.F. Huts demolished.	Number of persons displaced. (Approx.)
1955	2	6	36
1956	4	14	61
1957	3	36	137
1958	4	14	56
1959	2	-	7
1960	9	-	20
1961	4	-	7
1962	3	-	10
1963	6	-	16
	37	70	350

Grants for Certain Improvements of Dwellings.

Under the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959, as amended by the Housing Act 1961, owners of old houses are now able to obtain standard grants of up to £155 towards improvements, i.e. the provision of a bath, wash basin, hot water supply, water closet and food store. Discretionary grants up to £400 are also available for more extensive improvements to suitable type dwellings.

Eight applications were made for standard grants and five in respect of discretionary grants.

Rent Act, 1957.

There were no applications for Certificates of Disrepair during the year.

Investigation and Prevention of Atmospheric Pollution.

The extent of atmospheric pollution by deposited matter is determined generally by exposing the standard gauge

and examining at monthly intervals rainfall collected in the gauge bowl. Month to month fluctuations in deposited matter, however, are often the result of variations in weather and a long period of observation is needed before reliable conclusions can be drawn about the average level of pollution. The finer particles, commonly referred to as smoke, which are less than .002 cm. in size, settle slowly, if at all, and little of this is collected in the deposit gauge. It serves, therefore, as an indication of localised grit and dust fall. Whilst this may be an average deposit for the whole area, to obtain a more accurate reading several deposit gauges would be required at different parts of the district. Since some medical authorities consider that grit and dust are not particularly harmful to health the value of this information would not be commensurate with the expense of providing and maintaining more deposit gauges.

A more useful piece of apparatus for the purpose of measuring the daily concentration of smoke and suspended impurities in the air is the volumetric sulphur dioxide and smoke filter apparatus.

Clean Air Act, 1956.

The purpose of making records of pollution is in order to gauge the extent and also later to be able to make comparisons after the operation of a smoke control area.

At the moment it does not seem advisable to recommend the establishment of a smokeless zone. The operation of the building byelaw made under Section 24 ensures the fitting of firegrates in new buildings capable of burning smokeless fuel. It was hoped, therefore, that on the new housing estates potential smokeless zones would be created without the necessity for grant payment.

By the rapid technological changes in the gas industry affecting the production of gas coke, it is now evident that insufficient smokeless fuel will be available. Moreover, the hard cokes now being produced cannot be burned in most of the open firegrates being fitted. The installation of under-floor draught open fire or an openable stove is now recommended in order to be able to burn all grades of hard coke.

The initial effect of the changed fuel position will make it more difficult for local authorities outside the "black areas" to establish smoke control areas.

In the statistics provided below, most of the water soluble matter is probably derived from salt spray. The greater part of the smoke produced in the district is caused by the domestic fire.

Twenty-six observations were made on smoke emission from buildings other than domestic premises. Four contraventions of the Dark Smoke (Permitted Periods) Regulations were noted. Improvements were made after informal action.

Month	Rainfall, inches.		pH Value		Water - insoluble matter. Tons per sq. mile.		Water - soluble matter. Tons per sq. mile.		Total Solids. Tons per sq. mile.	
	1962	1963	1962	1963	1962	1963	1962	1963	1962	1963
January	2.91	1.06	4.0	4.2	16.62	5.16	15.02	2.71	31.64	7.87
February	1.14	0.35	4.7	3.7	56.23	4.31	10.90	1.32	67.13	5.63
March	1.50	1.93	4.1	4.0	42.99	5.50	5.76	5.0	48.75	10.50
April	2.01	2.25	3.9	4.2	7.88	4.31	4.70	3.78	12.58	8.09
May	2.52	0.99	4.7	4.5	9.44	5.13	5.53	4.01	14.97	9.14
June	0.75	3.62	4.7	4.5	5.33	3.21	3.64	4.20	8.97	7.41
July	1.07	0.83	5.5	3.9	6.76	1.92	5.99	1.96	12.75	3.88
August	3.55	3.62	4.9	4.3	8.71	5.43	7.12	4.47	15.83	9.90
September	3.03	3.47	4.3	4.3	6.26	3.88	5.33	5.40	11.59	9.28
October	2.28	3.03	4.8	4.6	2.48	2.58	9.84	4.93	12.32	7.51
November	2.48	4.26	4.0	4.2	1.59	8.35	5.80	12.16	7.39	20.51
December	2.13	0.55	3.9	4.2	3.02	1.92	11.20	3.18	14.22	5.10

SCHOOLS.

A list of the main schools in the district is given below :-

School.	Type.	Average No. of Children on Roll.
Formby County Primary	Junior and Infants	301
St. Luke's C. of E.	-do-	258

School.	Type.	Average No. of Children on Roll.
St. Peter's C. of E.	Junior and Infants	225
Holy Trinity C. of E.	-do-	177
Our Lady's R.C.	All ages	314
Formby County Secondary	Secondary	258
Holmwood	Private	178 (100 of these are Boarders).
Netherby Preparatory	Private	20
Bishop's Court R.C.	Private	120 (70 of these are Boarders).
St. Peter's College R.C.	Private	120 (All Boarders).
St. Mary's Convent R.C.	Private	133
Phoenix House	Private	58

In addition, there are a few small Private Nursery Schools and two Home Office Approved Schools.

Routine inspection was made of the sanitary accommodation and also of the school kitchens and dining rooms.

Inspection and Supervision of Food and Milk Supplies.

There are nine retailers delivering milk within the district and all milk sold is tuberculin tested, pasteurised or sterilised and can, therefore, be regarded as "safe."

Milk Sampling.

The following details are given of samples taken from dairies, food kitchens and schools, which were submitted for bacteriological examination. All of these were found to be satisfactory.

No. of Samples	Grade of Milk	Test	Satis-factory	Unsatis-factory
5	T.T. (Untreated)	T.B. Animal inoculation	5	-
8	T.T. (Heat Treated)	Methylene Blue	8	-
8	Pasteurised	Phosphatase	8	-

Food Hygiene Regulations.

The standard of hygiene at food shops and bakehouses in the district is improving. Several owners have modernised their premises and more are using protective display units. A larger variety of foodstuffs are now being prepacked or wrapped and many shops have frozen food cabinets. Although most chocolates and sweets are packeted or wrapped, a few varieties of loose sweets are still sold. The purchase of these should be discouraged.

In the catering and confectionery trades the greater use should be made of tongs for the serving of cakes and other open foods.

Attention has been given to the temporary catering arrangements at open-air shows and displays. These often fall below the standards desired and may become a potential source of danger, especially where untrained staff are recruited just for the day. Other sources of danger can be the "Teenage Barbecue," the Coffee Morning" and "Strawberry Tea" unless a high standard of personal hygiene is maintained by the organisers.

Bakehouses.

The six bakehouses in the district received periodic inspection. These were generally found to be maintained in a clean and satisfactory condition. Some improvements were carried out at two premises and at others minor defects noted were remedied.

Foreshore and Shellfish.

An Order made under the Public Health (Shellfish) Regulations 1934, by the Liverpool Port Health Authorities prohibits the taking of cockles and mussels from the "prescribed area" unless these are to be treated at an approved Cleansing Station.

This prescribed area includes most of the foreshore. During the past year not many edible shellfish have been observed on the shore. Shrimps do not come within the prohibition and a few fishermen use the channel for shrimping. Samples of cockles were obtained from a vendor in the district and these were submitted for bacteriological examination to the Public Health Laboratory. No organisms of the salmonella group were found.

Unsound Foods.

The following foodstuffs were found on inspection to be unfit and were voluntarily surrendered and destroyed:-

38 lbs. Beef.
34 lbs. Corned Beef.
14 lbs. Pork.
24 lbs. Steak.
12 lbs. Canned Pork.
10 lbs. Boiled Ham.
10 lbs. Fish and Vegetables. (Frozen).
3 lbs. Dried Albumen.

Ice-Cream.

Thirty-five premises are registered for the sale of ice-cream. The produce is mostly wrapped or prepacked and is produced by large manufacturers outside the area. In addition to the retail shops selling ice-cream, three of these manufacturers trade from vehicles which are registered under the Lancashire County Council (General Powers) Act 1951, as hawkers of food. These vans are fitted with freezing equipment, enabling them to produce a "soft ice-cream" from a powder mix to which only water is added.

Six samples of ice-cream were taken and submitted for examination. The following results were reported :-

No. of Samples.	Methylene Blue Test - Period of Reduction.	Grade - Result.
4	Not before 4 hours.	1
2	3 to 4 hours.	2
-	1 hour.	3
-	-	4

The standard adopted is that recommended by the Ministry of Health, i.e. "ice-cream which consistently fails to reach grades one and two indicates defects of manufacture or handling." On these standards all samples were found to be satisfactory.

Licensed Premises.

Periodic inspections were made of the sanitary arrangements, kitchens and beer cellars at the six licensed hotels in the district.

Further improvements have been made at several of these Houses, where additional sanitary accommodation and washing facilities have been provided. Table tops and surfaces to bar counters have also been improved to facilitate cleansing.

Pet Animals Act 1951.

The Act provides for the licensing of premises where animals are sold as pets, and has regard to the accommodation, feeding and cleanliness of these animals. Although there are a few shops dealing exclusively in pet foods, no applications were made for licences to sell animals.

Slaughterhouses.

There are no slaughterhouses in this district. The public slaughterhouses at Liverpool and Southport provide adequate facilities for the requirements of the area.

Hawkers of Food - Lancashire County Council (General Powers) Act 1951.

The registration of hawkers of food and their premises is required by the above Act. Routine inspections of vans were made during the course of food delivery; any defects found were remedied by informal Notice. There are fourteen hawkers licensed to trade in the district.

An Order was made in 1962 under the Town Police Clauses Act 1847, prohibiting hawking in most of the main streets from June to September on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949.

Rodent Control.

The work of rat and mice eradication has continued during the year.

The rodent operative combines this work with other duties in the department. A routine search is made and complaints of infestation are investigated and treated; 1,099 visits were made for the purpose.

Infestations at private dwellings are treated free of charge and the actual cost of treatment plus an establishment percentage is made for business and agricultural premises.

Most treatment has been done by using medium oatmeal as a bait base with the anti-coagulent warfarin. This chronic poison acts mainly by preventing the blood from clotting. Rats and mice eating this tend to die of internal and external bleeding. Neither fluoroacetamide or sodium fluoroacetate, both effective but extremely dangerous poisons, have been used.

Sewer Treatment.

The annual baiting of the sewers for rats was carried out in July, when fifty manholes in various parts of the district were test baited. When the manholes were re-inspected later it was found that there had been "no takes." It would appear from this that the sewerage system at the moment is free from rats. In view of this, the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food recommends that further treatment in the sewers need not be carried out for two years.

Insect Destruction.

In a few instances the services of the department were required for the treatment of bug and flea infestations. These were effectively dealt with by the use of D.D.T. sprays. Unfortunately, some of the insecticides have an unpleasant effect on the operator and care is required in handling the sprays.

Cockroach infestations still continue to be reported and it has been found that pyrethrum preparations are now giving the best results in in reducing this persistent pest.

As usual, many requests for help to get rid of ants, bees, earwigs and wasps were received and assistance given.

Adulteration of Food.

A total of sixty-five samples of foods were obtained and submitted for analysis by the Lancashire County Council. Details of these are given below :-

Food.	Number of Samples.
Soup, canned	3
Ground Almonds	1

Food.	Number of Samples.
Shredded Suet	1
Lard	1
Dried Fruit - Dates	1
Fresh Fruit - Apples	1
Pickled Onions	3
Pickles	1
Mincemeat	1
Marmalade	3
Cooking Salt	1
Table Salt	1
Milk	47

The following are samples upon which the County Analyst gave adverse reports :-

Type of Sample.	Result of Analysis.	Action Taken.
1 - Milk	Deficient in 3.3% fat.	Farmer notified.
1 - Milk, Channel Islands.	" " 6.2% "	Farmer cautioned. Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food notified.
1 - Milk, Channel Islands.	" " 8.3% "	-do-

The Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order 1957.

The administration of this Order has been delegated to the Council by the Lancashire County Council. Its object is to prevent the spread of foot and mouth disease, swine fever, fowl pest and other diseases. The order prohibits the feeding of unboiled waste foods to certain animals and poultry. Collectors of waste foods for animal and poultry feeding must obtain a licence. This imposes on them the obligation to use an approved boiling plant, which is inspected periodically. All waste food collected must be boiled for at least one hour.

There are six premises at which licensed plant can be operated. Many pig-breeders have discontinued the use of waste foods, having found other foodstuffs more suitable, cleaner and easier to handle. Ten visits of inspection were made to premises and in three cases minor contraventions which were found were remedied by verbal notice.

Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act 1956.

Local authorities are required, under this Act, to ensure the provision of adequate sanitary conveniences on agricultural holdings, and also to see that these are kept clean. In a few cases during the Spring and Summer months the normal complement of workers is increased by the employment of casual labour and temporary arrangements have often to be made.

Sixteen agricultural units were inspected and, generally, were found to be satisfactory.

Piggeries and Stables, etc.

During the Summer months stables, piggeries and the effluent of septic tanks can be a source of considerable annoyance, and visits are made particularly during this period. Efforts are made to minimise the nuisance likely to arise from manure dumps and fly breeding.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 to 1959.

PART I OF THE ACT.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	No. on Register. (2)	Number of Inspections. (3)	Number of Written Notices. (4)	Number of Occupiers Prosecuted. (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by local authorities.	5	10	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority.	40	41	2	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority (excluding out-workers premises).	18	56	1	-
Total	63	107	3	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found.				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	Referred By H.M. Inspector.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1):	1	1	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2):	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3):	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4):	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6):	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):	-	-	-	-	-
(a) Insufficient:	1	1	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective:	6	6	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes:	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work):	-	-	-	-	-
Total:	8	8	-	-	-

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTIONS, 1963.

Complaints received and investigated	310
Visits to dwellings under Public Health Acts	932
Visits to dwellings under Housing Acts	143
Re-visits to premises	321
Visits to factories and workplaces, and building sites	107
Visits to public houses	14
Visits to food premises	63
Visits to bakehouses	35
Visits to farms, piggeries, etc.	16
Visits re wells and water supply	15
Visits to schools	11
Visits to caravan sites	6
Visits to shops	66
Visits re Rent Act	2
Visits re infectious disease	15
Visits to ditches and watercourses	7
Visits and observations re Clean Air Act, 1956	26
Visits re milk supplies	10
Visits re ice-cream	8
Visits re food hawkers	11
Miscellaneous visits and interviews	144
Number of drain tests	328
Number of preliminary or verbal notices	93
Number of notices complied with	86
Number of statutory notices served	8

Disinfection and Disinfestation.

Number of premises treated for insect infestation	88
Number of rooms disinfected	5
Number of articles disinfected	49